

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3795
ANSWERED ON:18.04.2000
OPENING OF OFFICE BY U.S. AGENCY
CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government have granted permission to the U.S.Agency, F.B.I. to set up its office and start its functioning in our country;
- (b) if so, the details in this regard; and
- (c) the details of basis on which this permission has been given alongwith the terms and conditions in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

(SHRI CH. VIDYASAGAR RAO)

(a),(b)&(c): It has been decided to allow the US Embassy to augment its strength in New Delhi for opening a Legal Attache Office manned by two FBI Officers. Government of India has similar representation in its Embassy in Washington.

The decision to this effect has been taken in the context of growing Indo-US bilateral cooperation on counter-terrorism. The opening of the Legal Attache Office will enable more effective coordination between our law enforcement agencies and will help in fighting against terrorism and exert pressure on extremist groups operating across borders.

Further, the Legal Attache Office will liase with our law enforcement agencies particularly in cases involving financial crimes and terrorism, which the United States and India are pursuing jointly. As per terms and conditions of the arrangement, US will not carry out independent investigations.